



Eligibility

- Must be a City of Santa Clara resident between the ages 12–19.
• Willing and able to commit to at least one term (August–May).
• Submit a completed application, and one letter of recommendation from a teacher, advisor, supervisor or coach.

Requirements

Youth Commission applicants must be able to commit to the following:

- Attend twice monthly meetings, Tuesdays at the Santa Clara Teen Center.
* 2nd Tuesday: General Meeting (6:00pm–8:00pm)
* 4th Tuesday: Committee Meetings (1/2 hour meetings between 4:00pm and 8:00pm)
• Participate in 80% of special events and/or subcommittees.

Apply

- Submit the attached application along with one letter of recommendation to the Teen Center by 5:00pm, Friday, March 19, 2010.
• Applications are available at Santa Clara Unified Middle and High school Counseling and ASB Offices, Community Recreation Center, Teen Center, Central Library or online at http://santaclaraca.gov/index.aspx?page=1402

City of Santa Clara

Youth Commission



City of Santa Clara

Advisor Contact

Jennifer Herb, Recreation Supervisor
2446 Cabrillo Ave.
Santa Clara, CA 95051

Phone: (408) 615-3740

Fax: (408) 241-2326

YouthCommission@santaclaraca.gov



It Begins with YOUTH

(408) 615-3740

City of Santa Clara
YOUTH COMMISSION APPLICATION
2010-2011

Complete and return the attached application along with one letter of recommendation from a teacher, advisor, counselor or coach to the Teen Center by 5:00pm on Friday, March 19, 2010. A mandatory parent/applicant meeting will be held at the Teen Center on Monday, April 5 at 7:00pm. All interviews will take place on Saturday, April 10 at the Teen Center, located at 2446 Cabrillo Avenue. Please call no later than April 7 to schedule your interview time. Time slots will be given on a first come first serve basis. No exceptions will be made for the interview date. For additional information contact Jennifer Herb at (408) 615-3740.

Name _____, Email address _____

Street address _____, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____, Age _____

What grade will you be in this fall? _____ What school will you attend this fall? _____

Why do you want to become a member of the Youth Commission? _____

What programs, activities or issues would you like to see addressed by the Youth Commission? _____

What strengths could you contribute to the Youth Commission? _____

Please list the extracurricular activities you have been involved with. _____

Please list your community service involvement throughout your lifetime. _____

I, _____, applicant, verify that the information I have included on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I, _____, parent, am aware that my child has applied and may be accepted to serve on the Santa Clara Youth Commission

Signature _____, Date _____

Power of Teamwork

teamwork n. 1. joint action by a group of people, in which individual interests are subordinated to group unity and efficiency; coordinated effort, as of an athletic team.

Members of the Youth Commission have the important duty of providing City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission and Recreation program staff with insight regarding youth and teen issues in the Santa Clara community.



Teambuilding at Odyssey Ropes Course

This may include programs relating to safety, recreation, drug awareness, special interests, sports, community involvement, socialization and environmental concerns.

Be a Part of the Team — Join the Youth Commission or become a Member at Large. Call Jennifer Herb at 615-3740 to learn how.

Youth Commission gave me a voice through which to make people listen. The reputation of the Commission precedes you in the community and people were interested to hear what we had to say. The difference I was able to make in Youth Commission was a highlight of my high school experience.
-Vanessa Harsh

Who We Are

The Santa Clara Youth Commission is a 15-member assembly consisting of Santa Clara youth, representing various high schools and middle schools. The Youth Commission's responsibility is:

- To act in an advisory capacity to the City of Santa Clara City Council on matters pertaining to the youth and teen population, especially as related to municipal programs and projects of the City.



Youth Commission swearing-in

Elected Officers

The **Chairperson** presides at all meetings and appoints committees necessary to carry out the Commission's business and operations. The Chairperson may also act as the spokesperson representing the Youth Commission when making presentations to City Council.

The **Vice-Chairperson** presides at the meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, assumes specific leadership responsibilities and assists the Chairperson in fulfilling his/her responsibilities as needed.

The **Secretary** is responsible for all communications for the meetings and records the minutes of the Commission.

Members At Large

If you cannot commit to the requirements but still want to contribute, become a **MEMBER AT LARGE**. Volunteers are always appreciated. Attend meetings to join a committee or give input on upcoming events.

Activities

The Youth Commission has been an active part of the community since its inception in 1995. They successfully recommended the development of the Skate Park and Teen Center, created the Community Service Scholarship and developed the "Paws for a Cause" Benefit Bingo Spaghetti Feed.



City Easter Egg Hunt

In addition, the Youth Commission volunteers at City-wide special events (i.e. Art and Wine Festival, City Halloween Party, Tree Lighting Ceremony and Easter Egg Hunt) as well as hosts their own projects/activities (i.e. Teen Center events, Talent Show and YAC Attack (Youth Commission Conference)).



Community Service Scholarship

As a Youth Commissioner, I liked being a voice for the teens in Santa Clara and enjoyed expressing my own ideas as well. I learned about municipal government and the process in which an idea is developed and brought forth to City Council. -Paul Barghouth

Special Events

Here is a list of some of the events the Youth Commission will host or volunteer at this year!

- S.C.'s Got Talent—January 22
- YAC Attack, Youth Commission Conference—March 6
- City of Santa Clara Easter Egg Hunt—April 3
- "Paws for Cause" Benefit Bingo Spaghetti Feed—April 23
- Karaoke Night—May

Philanthropy

The Youth Commission believes in helping the community by raising money for local organizations. This year, a few of the activities planned are:

"S.C.'s Got Talent," the first city-wide talent show showcasing both Santa Clara and Wilcox High School attracted 250 people. Talent included Hawaiian dancing, singers, hip hop dancers, dramatic monologues and even a sword dance. The money raised



S.C.'s Got Talent—2010 Winners

went to support the Community Service Scholarship Fund, sponsored by the Youth Commission.

"Paws for a Cause" Benefit Bingo Spaghetti Feed will raise funds for the Animal Assistance Program at the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority. This program enables staff to give specialized veterinary care to rehabilitate sick and injured animals and give them a second chance. In 2009, the event raised over \$3,000.



Benefit Bingo—2009

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